

IN CONFIDENCE
MEMORANDUM REPORT
 BUREAU OF NARCOTICS

DISTRICT NO. 2

CASE FILE NO.

GEN. FILE TITLE:

Gerson NAGELBERG et al

REPORT MADE

RELATED FILES

OTHER OFFICERS

AT: New York, New York
 DATE: January 30, 1968

BY: Mortimer L. Benjamin
 Narcotic Agent

SUBJECT OF THIS MEMORANDUM

Allegations made by Vivienne NAGELBERG to RCMP Staff Sergeant Jacques Plante and Agent Mortimer Benjamin at Montreal on May 28 & 29, 1968.

RECOMMENDATION

PENDING:

CLOSE:

FURTHER INVESTIGATION:

DETAILS (if report is over two pages in length summarize in first paragraph)

1. Reference is made to my memorandum report dated June 9, 1967 concerning interviews with Vivienne NAGELBERG during May 1967. During these interviews, NAGELBERG made numerous allegations about several Agents and Ex-Agents in this office. Immediately upon my return from Canada I reported these allegations to my immediate supervisor, Mr. Leonard Schrier. Due to the sensitive nature of the information and the lack of any substantiation, it was then decided not to make them the subject of an official written report.
2. Upon learning of the recent arrests of Jack Ghode and Cleophus Robinson, inasmuch as they were the main subjects of NAGELBERG's accusations, I was obliged to re-evaluate her information. Accordingly I went to Mr. Arthur Fluhr, Assistant to the Supervisor (Operations) and told him what I had previously reported to Mr. Schrier.
3. After discussing this situation with District Supervisor George M. Belk and carefully reviewing the information it was decided that this information should be put into a written report so that it could be properly utilized by any agents assigned to continue this investigation. On January 29, 1968 I was instructed to turn over the NAGELBERG investigation over to Group Leader Ivan Wurms.
4. When Vivienne NAGELBERG was brought into the RCMP office at Dorval Airport after the arrest of FRONTIERI et al she immediately remembered me as one of the Agents who had arrested her husband several years ago. She felt that she was in a great deal of trouble and it was not difficult to get her to confide in me. She first denied any connection with the FRONTIERI case (she later changed her story) and stated that she was at Dorval on orders from "Agent Ghode". When I insisted that Ghode was no longer an Agent and that his new position would not have any basis for her to be in Canada, she implored me to contact Ghode and he "would clear everything up."
5. A good portion of this conversation was again repeated before RCMP Staff Sergeant Plante. He requested that I immediately contact my office and ascertain whether or not she was in Canada as an Informant working under the

(Continued)

COPY OF THIS MEMO FURNISHED TO

BUREAU: 2

DISTRICT NO:

FILES:X

IN CONFIDENCE

SIGNATURES

Mortimer L. Benjamin
 (NARCOTIC AGENT)

Mortimer L. Benjamin

APPROVED:

George M. Belk
 (DISTRICT SUPERVISOR)

IN CONFIDENCE

GF: Gerson NAGELBERG et al

New York, New York
January 30, 1968

5.(Continued)

direction of GHODE. I immediately called Group Leader Leonard Schrier and explained the situation to him. Mr. Schrier attempted to contact GHODE by phone but was unsuccessful until I believe the following day. Agent Schrier stated that when GHODE had finally been contacted he denied any knowledge of VIVIENNE being in Canada. Staff Sergeant Jacques Plante was so informed.

6. When I told VIVIENNE what GHODE had said she appeared shocked and said "how can he do this to me?" She said that GHODE had owed her plenty and could not believe that he would desert her. She then mentioned that she had introduced GHODE to the "Fraulien". (I have no idea who or what the "Fraulien" is.) She told Sgt. Plante that she had worked for other Agents in the New York Office and some of them owed her "plenty". She said, "I 'bet you didn't know that Robinson was related to me?" Indeed I was surprised. She stated that Robinson used to spend more time in her apartment than she did and that he could not be trusted. (She later in New York told me that ROBINSON had told "the wrong" people in Harlem about her arrest in Montreal.) She also said that former Agent Frank BISHOPP was also a frequent visitor and had borrowed money from her which had never been repaid. She said that she had done a lot for the Agents in New York and turned to me and said, "I could tell you some things about your good friend Lenny SCHRIER." I replied, (in front of Sergeant Plante) "does it have anything to do with narcotics?" She answered "no". I said, "Then I'm not interested." She then tried to impress Sgt. Plante by saying that she had met with "even your District Supervisor Mr. Belk", and "he owes me a favor too." She did not further explain these remarks, in fact all her conversation was apparently vague and insinuating.

7. During these interviews VIVIENNE implicated herself, her husband, Joe KAUFMAN, her "brother" Robert POTTER, @ MIMI in Paris and BENICHO. However, insisted on Frank ESPOSITO's innocence in the Narcotic traffic; although her written statement names him as an interpreter. When I indicated to her I intended to question ESPOSITO she whispered to me, "what ever you do don't tell LUCKY (ESPOSITO) that GHODE was the Agent that shot CANGIANO." She offered no other explanation for this request. It seems hard for me to believe that ESPOSITO did not know that GHODE had shot CANGIANO, but I never went into the subject with him.